

Intergovernmental Coordination Element

Coordination between local, State, regional, and federal government entities is complex. In order to curtail replication of various endeavors by different levels of government and encourage cooperation and efficiency, it is essential that the lines of communication are clear. Intergovernmental cooperation is important because many local government issues cross jurisdictional boundaries and affect more than one community. Land use, roads and traffic, economic conditions, housing, crime, and effects from growth and development are all issues that spill over municipal boundaries. Increased communication technologies and personal mobility also result in people and resources moving across political boundaries.

This element reviews and contains policies to improve intergovernmental communication. Staff identified existing methods of intergovernmental coordination, and determined where communication deficiencies between Lake County, municipalities, and various organizations exist. After analyzing current trends, objectives and policies were formulated to enhance coordination between the municipalities, organizations in and around Lake County, and citizens, as well as to enhance coordination among local governments with state and regional agencies.

The County will ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of all governmental services and programs by fostering intergovernmental coordination between the county; its municipalities; LSMPO and the Lake County School Board; adjacent governments; utilities and quasi-public agencies; and regional, state and federal governments.

Lake County will coordinate its programs and Comprehensive Plan with the programs and plans of municipalities, agencies and adjacent counties to ensure effective and efficient delivery of public services. Moreover, Lake County will coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with the plans and programs of regional, state and federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently address cross-jurisdictional issues. Ensuring that the impacts resulting from the implementation of the Lake County Comprehensive Plan upon development in municipalities, adjacent counties, regions and the State are addressed through the effective use of the following intergovernmental coordination mechanisms is also a County priority. A tool that will be used to achieve this goal is to establish Joint Planning Area Agreements with the 14 municipalities and utilize the informal mediation process of the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council to implement the goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

GOAL VI-1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

The County shall ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of all governmental services and programs by fostering intergovernmental coordination between the County, its municipalities, LSMPO, Lake County School Board, adjacent governments, utilities and quasi-public agencies, and regional, state and federal governments. The County shall coordinate with other local governments and agencies to encourage consistent facility, services and land use plans, to ensure cost-effective services, to maintain compatible land uses, and to implement resource planning and management plans.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.1 COORDINATION OF THE LAKE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WITH ADJACENT LOCALITIES AND OTHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT

Lake County shall coordinate its programs and Comprehensive Plan with the programs and plans of municipalities, agencies and adjacent counties to ensure effective and efficient delivery of public services, and will strive to update, maintain, or adopt new interlocal agreements within one year of the adoption of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element. Lake County shall ensure that the impacts resulting from the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan upon development in municipalities, adjacent counties, regions and the State are addressed through the effective use of the following intergovernmental coordination mechanisms.

Policy VI-1.1.1 Intergovernmental Agreements with Adjacent Jurisdictions

The County shall endeavor to develop and maintain intergovernmental agreements or joint planning agreements with adjacent jurisdictions to provide for the following:

- Coordination of land use density and intensity and transportation facilities along the County boundary;
- Improved opportunities to review and comment on proposed Developments of Regional Impact, Comprehensive Plan amendments, Planned Developments, preliminary site plans and capital projects in proximity to its border;
- Sharing of planning, development, and capital improvement data;
- Exchange of plans, studies, ordinances, and Land Development Regulations that may affect either government; and
- Distribution of information concerning the level of service standards for public facilities and services.

Policy VI-1.1.2 Joint Planning Committees

The County shall form and utilize joint Municipal/County planning committees, to ensure consistency between Comprehensive Plan programs and issues.

Policy VI-1.1.3 Adoption of Joint Planning Areas

Within 12 months of the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan the County shall pursue Joint Planning Areas (JPAs) with each of the municipalities in Lake County and with adjacent counties to address, at minimum, future annexations, provision of services and facilities and land use compatibility. The County shall adhere to this Comprehensive Plan when negotiating Joint Planning Areas. A summary of all Joint Planning Areas shall be included in this Comprehensive Plan. The County shall evaluate the effectiveness of Joint Planning Areas and revise them as necessary.

Policy VI-1.1.4 JPA with the City of Clermont

The County shall enforce the adopted JPA agreement with the City of Clermont to address, at minimum, future annexations, provision of services and facilities, land use compatibility, and protection of the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern. The JPA shall also include agreement on future densities and intensities of properties that it may annex and a procedure for resolution of any future conflicts or disputes. It shall also include criteria for when and how to amend the Joint Planning Area boundary.

Policy VI-1.1.5 JPA with the City of Mount Dora

The County shall enforce the adopted JPA agreement with the City of Mount Dora to address, at minimum, future annexations, provision of services and facilities, land use compatibility and protection of the Wekiva Study Area. The JPA shall also include agreement on future densities and intensities of properties that it may annex and a procedure for resolution of any future conflicts or disputes. It shall also include criteria for when and how to amend the Joint Planning Area boundary.

Policy VI-1.1.6 JPA with the Town of Lady Lake

The County shall enforce the adopted JPA agreement with the Town of Lady Lake to address, at minimum, future annexations, provision of services and facilities, and land use compatibility. The JPA shall also include agreement on future densities and intensities of properties that it may annex and a procedure for resolution of any future conflicts or disputes. It shall also include criteria for when and how to amend the joint planning area boundary.

Policy VI-1.1.7 Interlocal Agreements for Land Use

The County shall develop new, update or maintain existing interlocal agreements or Joint Planning Area agreements with the municipalities for future annexations which include procedures and criteria to implement, at a minimum, the following: compatibility between adjacent future land use designations, consistency between Land Development Regulations, future annexation area, or utility service areas and land use compatibility.

Policy VI-1.1.8 Municipal Annexations

The County shall monitor municipal annexations. If a municipality initiates action to annex property that is not reasonably compact, contiguous to the present municipal corporate limits, or creates an enclave as described per Florida Statute, the County shall object to the annexation and shall, when appropriate, legally challenge the annexation.

Policy VI-1.1.9 Annexation within Rural Areas

The County shall coordinate with its municipalities to the greatest extent possible to maintain the integrity of rural areas through joint planning and to ensure consistent standards for compatibility of proposed development adjacent to rural lands. If a municipality annexes property located within the Rural Future Land Use Series, Wekiva River Protection Area or Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern, and takes action to amend the future land use, rezone, or in any way change the allowable use of the subject property in a manner that is inconsistent with the protection of rural density and character, the County shall retain the right to object to said action.

Policy VI-1.1.10 Direct Density to Existing Urban Centers

The County shall work cooperatively with municipalities to promote urban infill and redevelopment within established municipal limits and as appropriate within municipal enclaves in order to prevent urban sprawl and the premature annexation of land.

Policy VI-1.1.11 Policy Coordination

The County may consider forming a Council of Local Officials pursuant to 163.02 F.S. to provide a policymaker forum to coordinate growth plans and programs and to resolve interlocal disputes. The Council should be comprised of representatives from the municipalities, School Board, and County to ensure that there is intergovernmental coordination and communication between all entities in land use decisions.

Policy VI-1.1.12 Advance Notification of Land Use Requests and Changes in Land Use Regulations

The County shall continue to transmit advance notification of requests for land use, zoning and development approval, and changes in land use regulations to municipalities that may be affected and the School Board, as required through interlocal agreements with the municipalities and the School Board of Lake County.

Policy VI-1.1.13 Agency Review

Proposed FLUM amendments shall be forwarded to appropriate local, state, and federal agencies for review and comment if the subject property is located adjacent to or affecting public lands and easements, if located within any area subject to special provisions of law or statute, or upon request of the state or federal agency.

Policy VI-1.1.14 Coordinated Efforts to Protect Established Residential Areas

The County will work diligently with the municipalities for the protection of established residential areas, through formal and informal agreements. Emphasis will be placed on protecting homes from adverse impacts caused by incompatible land uses and cut-through traffic, providing transitional uses where needed on border parcels, and providing adequate separation of homes from land uses that may negatively impact the safety, tranquility, value, and desirability of residential areas.

Policy VI-1.1.15 Coordination with Local Governments within Wekiva Study Area

The County shall coordinate with other local county and municipality governments located in the Wekiva Study Area to ensure a consistent approach to springs, springshed, and aquifer recharge protection.

Policy VI-1.1.16 Interlocal Agreement within the Wekiva Study Area

The County shall coordinate and propose an interlocal agreement relating to Land Development Regulations, stormwater management, and other matters of shared interest that impact the springs and springshed within the Wekiva Study Area. The interlocal agreement, containing joint strategies for springs protection, shall be implemented by local governments having development activities or development review authority, and with the consent of regulatory agencies having permitting authority within the WSA.

Policy VI-1.1.17 Coordination of the Lake County Comprehensive Plan with Regional, State and Federal Agencies

Lake County shall coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with the plans and programs of regional, State and Federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently address cross jurisdictional issues.

Policy VI-1.1.18 Compliance of State Development with Local Regulations

The County shall continue to review all State and other government development activities for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations. Such development will be considered subject to local regulation unless found to be statutorily exempt, in which case the County shall rely on other coordination mechanisms, including, but not limited to, informal negotiation, to ensure the compatibility of the development with County Land Development Regulations.

Policy VI-1.1.19 Regional, State, and Federal Agencies

Lake County shall coordinate its comprehensive planning activities with the plans and programs of regional, State and Federal agencies by, at minimum, continuing to coordinate with the following agencies: East Central Florida Regional Planning Council; St. Johns River Water Management District; Southwest Florida Water Management District; Lake County Water Authority, LSMPO; the Florida Departments of Environmental Protection, Transportation, and Community Affairs; the Florida Public Service Commission, the Florida Highway Patrol; and the Federal Agencies of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Army Corps of Engineers. The County shall also seek legislative action by the Florida Legislature when the needs of the County so require. The County shall continue to work on issues with the Florida Association of Counties and shall consider working with the Florida League of Cities.

Policy VI-1.1.20 Coordination with State Reclamation Program

The County shall coordinate its permitting and regulation of mining and borrow pit operations with activities of the Bureau of Mine Reclamation of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Policy VI-1.1.21 Planning Coordination in the Military Operations Area

Lake County shall seek to achieve a high degree of intergovernmental coordination and communication to ensure that planning programs work in concert to promote the continued existence of the Pinecastle Military Operations Area and avoid incompatible land use activities.

Policy VI-1.1.22 Planning and Zoning Board Membership for Military Operations

The County shall ensure close coordination with U.S. Military and that this coordination can be fostered through the inclusion of a representative of the Department of the Navy as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Local Planning Agency and Zoning Board. The County shall request that the Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Jacksonville designate a representative to serve in this capacity. The designated representative shall be notified of all meetings and provided with copies of agenda packages related to the Pinecastle Military Operations Area, as well as any special planning studies, such as the Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

Policy VI-1.1.23 Review of Proposed Actions within the Military Operations Area

The County shall refer to the Department of the Navy representative for review and comment prior to final action by the County, all proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments, proposed Land Development Regulations, rezonings, waivers, exceptions, variances and similar applications which, if approved, would affect the intensity, density, or use of land within the Pinecastle Military Operations Area as specified in 163.3175(3) F.S., as may be amended.

Policy VI-1.1.24 Recruit New Businesses and Industries

Lake County shall partner with the business community, chambers of commerce, municipalities, the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission, the Lake County Industrial Development Authority, and other key stakeholders in efforts to identify and recruit high wage industries while promoting a balanced, diversified and sustainable economy in the County.

Policy VI-1.1.25 Business-friendly Land Use Allocations

Lake County will foster and encourage the creation of additional business and commerce throughout the County. Therefore, in order to provide the necessary acreage and intensities to grow the County's economic prosperity, Growth Management staff will, in partnership with recommendations from the Department of Economic Growth & Redevelopment, the business community, chambers of commerce, municipalities and other key stakeholders, recommend to the Board of County Commissioners adequate areas to be designated for higher intensity development on the Zoning Map.

Policy VI-1.1.26 Coordination with Municipalities

Lake County shall encourage and assist its municipalities with the establishment of downtown entertainment districts and shall support local artists through sponsored events.

Policy VI-1.1.27 Conflict Resolution

The County shall endeavor to prevent and resolve conflicts and inconsistencies with other governments and agencies, through the use of voluntary meetings, formal and informal mandatory mediation and conflict resolution techniques as established by the regional planning council.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.2 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of local, regional, state and federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently protect and manage the natural and historical resources of the County.

Policy VI-1.2.1 Identify and Preserve Historical and Archaeological Resources

The County shall cooperate with state and federal agencies and local archaeological and historical groups to identify and preserve archaeological and historical resources within the County.

Policy VI-1.2.2 Participation in the Preservation and Protection of Lake County's Natural and Cultural Resources

The County shall recognize and participate in programs to ensure the beautification, preservation, and protection of designated federal, state, and local Scenic Highways and waterways; local, regional, state or federally designated environmentally sensitive areas; and sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Policy VI-1.2.3 Participation in State and Local Land Acquisition Programs

Lake County shall partner with federal, state, and regional agencies in the purchase of environmentally-sensitive lands, with emphasis on identified state projects including the Wekiva-Ocala Greenway, Wekiva Study Area, Green Swamp, Emeralds Marsh, and Lake Wales Ridge. The County shall, as appropriate, recommend additional property for acquisition and assist in the preparation of boundary amendments for state acquisition project areas through the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Further, Lake County shall pursue the acquisition of lands deemed to have local conservation, historic, or recreational value. The County shall utilize funding from the voter-approved Lake County Land Acquisition Program and shall, to the greatest extent possible, partner with state programs such as the Florida Communities Trust as well as with private conservation organizations to maximize acquisition opportunities.

Policy VI-1.2.4 Coordination with Conservation Agencies

The County shall coordinate with state and local conservation agencies, including but not limited to the U.S. Forestry Service, Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Forestry, St. Johns River Water Management District, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Lake Soil & Water Conservation District and Lake County Water Authority, regarding natural resource issues. These efforts may involve coordination on issues affecting the protection and management of wildlife, habitat, and natural communities; public access and management of preserved areas; water quality and flood control; control of exotic species; silviculture activities; and prescribed fire.

Policy VI-1.2.5 Consistency with other Management Plans within the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern

Lake County shall coordinate with other local, regional, and state agencies to ensure that policies as established in this Comprehensive Plan are consistent with other management plans applicable to the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern.

Policy VI-1.2.6 Coordination of Land Use with Wekiva-Ocala Greenway Project

Lake County shall work cooperatively with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the University of Florida to identify ecological corridors within

northeast Lake County and the Florida Division of State Lands Wekiva-Ocala Greenway project area necessary to establish a viable and permanent linkage between the Wekiva basin and Ocala National Forest. This effort shall consider habitat connectivity, corridors for wildlife movement, and the relationship between public and private lands, with the intent of developing a comprehensive land use and conservation strategy for ensuring long-term protection of the greater Wekiva-Ocala ecosystem. Lake County shall prioritize the acquisition of land and establishment of conservation easements to preserve these ecological corridors.

Policy VI-1.2.7 Develop and Implement Resource Management Plans

The County shall coordinate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies in the development and implementation of resource management plans through the following:

- Continuing participation on the Wekiva River Basin Commission and other working groups;
- Forwarding development proposals to federal and state agencies for review and comment on projects located within the Wekiva River Protection Area, Wekiva Study Area, and Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern or adjacent to publicly owned lands prior to final action;
- Continuing to review the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council work programs and providing assistance in the development of regional resource plans;
- Continuing to coordinate with the Water Management Districts, the Department of Environmental Protection and other agencies in identifying high priority acquisition areas and providing staff and financial resources; and
- Participating in and supporting the implementation of efforts associated with the Wekiva River system as a Wild and Scenic River.

Policy VI-1.2.8 Water Conserv II

Lake County shall pursue cooperative efforts with Orange County, the City of Orlando, state agencies, and private conservation organizations as appropriate, to enhance the future long term conservation value of the Water Conserv II property. Such efforts may include, but are not limited to, opportunities for upland restoration of the Lake Wales Ridge habitat, mitigation of threats to upland species, and protection of aquifer recharge.

Policy VI-1.2.9 Reduce Point-source Air Pollution Emissions

The County shall cooperate with the state in the monitoring of hazardous materials users and hazardous waste generators. The County will provide support to the state in their effort to ensure that contamination of the air by volatile pollutants released in the clean-up, use, or disposal of hazardous materials shall not exceed levels that may cause significant harm to human health or the environment. This policy shall be incorporated within the hazardous materials management program under the Lake County Department of Environmental Services. The County will follow up on complaints and the appropriate state and federal agencies will be notified.

Policy VI-1.2.10 Best Management Practices to Prevent Soil Erosion

The County, in cooperation with IFAS, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and other relevant agencies, shall require adherence to Best Management Practices for agriculture and silviculture operations to prevent soil erosion, and to protect the biological diversity and health of soils. Best Management Practices shall be followed during construction to prevent soil erosion.

Policy VI-1.2.11 State and Federal Incentives for Energy Conservation

The County shall support incentives by the state and federal governments to promote energy efficiency and conservation and the use of solar and other clean alternative energy sources.

Policy VI-1.2.12 Coordinated Energy Conservation

The County shall coordinate with the municipalities to promote energy conservation and education.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.3 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of local, regional, state and federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently protect and manage the water resources of the County including, but not limited to, wetlands and surface waters and their quality and quantity; ground water quality and quantity; and areas of aquifer recharge.

Policy VI-1.3.1 Joint Strategies for Water Supplies

The County shall, through its participation in the Regional Water Supply Planning Programs of the St. Johns River and Southwest Florida Water Management Districts, propose joint strategies for protection of water resources through water supply planning. The County shall consider incorporating the data and analyses of the Water Supply Work Plans of the municipalities into future updates of its Water Supply Work Plan.

Policy VI-1.3.2 District Water Supply Plans

The County will maintain a water supply facilities work plan that is coordinated with St. Johns River Water Management District's (SJRWMD's) District Water Supply Plan by updating the work plan and related Comprehensive Plan policies within 18 months of an update to the SJRWMD's District Water Supply Plan.

Policy VI-1.3.3 Participation with Water Management Districts' Water Supply Planning

The County will participate in the development of updates to the Southwest Florida and the St. Johns River Water Management District's water supply assessment and District Water Supply Plan.

Policy VI-1.3.4 Plan for Long-Term Water Supplies

The County shall continue to work with the water management districts and municipalities on water supply plans that provide for water supply needs, encourage water conservation, and protect ground and surface water and water-dependent natural resources.

Policy VI-1.3.5 Environmental Education

The County shall establish environmental programs to educate the public and community leaders about the relevance to their community and region of the springs, springsheds, springshed protection, ground water, aquifers, water pollution, and karst features, and the vital hydrological system of which they are a part. Environmental education programs should enhance the environmental literacy of the public and community leaders with respect to water resources, natural values, and threats facing local springs and springsheds.

The County shall coordinate with local colleges, the school board, and individual schools to develop environmental education programs for school-aged children regarding springsheds, water bodies, watersheds and ground water. The educational tools of the Lake County Water Resource Atlas shall be included in these programs.

Policy VI-1.3.6 Coordinate with Local Communities

Lake County shall coordinate with local communities to develop environmental education programs regarding springsheds, water bodies, watersheds and ground water. The educational tools of the Lake County Water Resource Atlas shall be included in these programs.

Policy VI-1.3.7 Groundwater Protection

The County, in coordination with federal, state, regional, and local agencies, shall protect the quantity and quality of groundwater resources and recharge areas, and prevent excessive groundwater draw-down caused by withdrawal for consumptive uses.

Policy VI-1.3.8 Aquifer Monitoring Programs

Lake County will cooperate with federal, state, and local governments, regional water management districts, local agencies, local governments, and interest groups in the implementation of on-going aquifer-monitoring programs.

Policy VI-1.3.9 Intergovernmental Coordination to Protect Aquifer Recharge

Lake County shall collaborate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies, including the Water Management Districts in studying the surficial and Floridan aquifers, springs, karst areas and surface waters as they apply and in determining the most appropriate actions to take in order to protect these resources. Approaches and measures to accomplish this shall be developed consistent with the Intergovernmental Coordination Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy VI-1.3.10 Regulated and/or Hazardous Waste Disposal

Lake County shall cooperate with all state and federal authorities in the regulation and disposal of regulated or hazardous wastes as defined in 9J5.003 (38) F.A.C.

Policy VI-1.3.11 Floridan Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment Map

Lake County shall coordinate with the Florida Geological Survey, Water Management Districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to prepare a Floridan Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment Map on a County-wide scale to determine areas within the County vulnerable to contamination of the Floridan aquifer, including primary, secondary and tertiary protection zones, karst features, springs and sinks.

Policy VI-1.3.12 Programs to Protect Special Waters and Watersheds

The County shall participate in programs at the local, regional, state, and federal levels to afford protection and management of land in watersheds and in water areas given special protection status by law, rule or ordinance. These areas shall include but not be limited to the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern, Wekiva River Protection Area, Wekiva Study Area, the Wekiva-Ocala Greenway, the Wekiva River and its tributaries, the Ocklawaha River, the St. Johns River, Outstanding Florida Waters, and Outstanding Lake County Waters.

Policy VI-1.3.13 Identification and Protection of Springshed Resources

The County, in cooperation with federal, state, regional, and local agencies, shall use the Floridan Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment, the Wekiva Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment, ground water models, and other tools as appropriate, to identify and map springs and springsheds, and to designate Springshed Protection Zones to protect the springshed and spring systems resources and designate appropriate land uses in these zones.

Policy VI-1.3.14 Water Quality Monitoring Within Springsheds

The County shall continue its springs sampling program. Regular spring flow measurements shall also be included as a part of this monitoring program. This program shall also provide for periodic sampling and testing of the surface and ground water quality within springsheds and springshed protection zones. Monitoring programs shall be coordinated with sampling and testing programs of the U. S. Geological Survey, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Water Management Districts and other federal, state, regional and local agencies. Funding sources shall be sought to enhance the local program.

Policy VI-1.3.15 Surface and Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts on Wetlands

Lake County shall coordinate with the Water Management Districts to limit groundwater and surface water withdrawals which may cause adverse impacts upon natural water bodies, wetlands, and wetland-dependent ecosystems.

Policy VI-1.3.16 Plugging Artesian Wells

The County shall implement plans and procedures to conserve its potable water supplies to the maximum extent practicable through a cooperative plugging program for uncapped artesian wells with the St. Johns River Water Management District and the Southwest Florida Water Management District, and the local Department of Health.

Policy VI-1.3.17 Ensure Supply of Safe Potable Water

The County shall review regulatory data and information related to the supply of safe potable water to its residents. The County shall coordinate and cooperate with federal, state, and regional agencies including the Water Management Districts, on County-wide water monitoring, especially in those areas of existing, suspected, or potential ground and surface water contamination.

Policy VI-1.3.18 Emergency Water Shortage Plan

Lake County shall cooperate with the St. Johns River Water Management District and Southwest Florida Water Management District in the enforcement of provisions of the Water Management Districts emergency water shortage plans.

Policy VI-1.3.19 Protect Aquifers from Saline Ground Water

The County, through restrictions on density, intensity and the Future Land Use Map, shall protect areas and aquifers identified by the U. S. Geological Survey and Water Management Districts where the movement of saline ground water into a fresh water aquifer has occurred or is likely to occur. The County shall cooperate with the federal, state, regional, and local agencies in determining the safety of the siting of wells, especially in areas located along the Wekiva and St. Johns Rivers where saline ground water may be present.

Policy VI-1.3.20 Program for Establishment of Public Well Fields

The County shall participate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies in the mapping and identification of areas within the County or zones within the Floridan aquifer where ground water quality is good, the potential for groundwater contamination is low, sinkhole potential is slight, and where potential negative impacts to spring flow, groundwater volume, and wetlands are low. Once these areas are determined, the County will encourage the use of these areas for regional and sub-regional water supplies to implement measures to protect these areas for future well field use.

Policy VI-1.3.21 Identify Sources of Surface Water Pollution

The County shall identify and evaluate sources of surface water pollution within the County and coordinate the development and implementation of pollution abatement methods and programs with local governments, state, and federal agencies.

Policy VI-1.3.22 Surface Water Quality Assessments

The County shall identify water bodies including lakes, rivers, streams, springs and spring runs, and develop and maintain levels of sampling that will describe existing conditions that will be essential to monitor short and long term changes. The County shall partner with and use the expertise of the United States Geological Survey, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the water management districts to accomplish these investigations. The design, parameters, and protocols including the need for more intense sampling shall be evaluated on a periodic basis to insure that high quality information is acquired.

Policy VI-1.3.23 Surface Water Quality Restoration

The County shall continue to participate in surface water restoration programs in cooperation and coordination with the state and other agencies for programs such as, but not limited to, the plans and programs of the Lake County Water Authority; the St. Johns River Water Management District's SWIM plans for the Lake Apopka Basin; the Middle St. John's River Basin (Wekiva River-Planning Unit 4E); and the Upper Ocklawaha River Basin Stormwater Management Systems; the upper Ocklawaha River Basin – Total Maximum Daily Load Reduction Basin Management Action Plan (UORB-BMAP); and programs in the Lake George Basin of the Middle St. John's River.

Policy VI-1.3.24 Evaluate Best Management Practices to Protect Surface Water

The County shall evaluate, and as appropriate require ,BMPs to protect surface waters in coordination with federal, state, regional, and local agencies. The evaluation shall include a review and incorporation of applicable BMPs established by the agencies identified above as well as by public-private partnerships such as Clean Marina and programs created by non-profit organizations.

Policy VI-1.3.25 Require Agricultural Best Management Practices for the Control of Erosion and Sedimentation

Best Management Practices for the control of soil erosion and sedimentation shall be employed for all agricultural activities in order to protect natural water bodies, watercourses, and wetlands from siltation. The County shall cooperate with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences/Florida Cooperative Extension Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop conservation management plans and incentives for agricultural operations.

Policy VI-1.3.26 Floodplain Restoration Program

The County shall cooperate with the appropriate state and federal agencies to identify significant floodplains for hydrologic and habitat restoration.

Policy VI-1.3.27 Protect Natural Fluctuation of Surface Waters

The County shall cooperate with federal, state, regional and local agencies to develop a natural lake level fluctuation plan for lakes currently regulated by water control structures, as feasible. The natural hydrological character of surface waters shall be maintained and management plans shall promote protection and restoration of natural water systems in lieu of structural alternatives and modified systems. Natural surface water flows, including sheet flow, shall be maintained and surface water shall be allowed to fluctuate on a seasonal basis.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.4 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of local, regional, state and federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently protect and manage the wildlife and habitat resources of the County including, but not limited to, listed species, wetlands and fresh water habitats, environmentally sensitive areas, and wildlife corridors.

Policy VI-1.4.1 Habitat and Wildlife Preservation

The County shall cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies to protect and maintain viable habitat for species designated as endangered, threatened, or species of special concern. Lake County shall conserve habitat and wildlife populations in order to maintain the health of natural ecosystems and maintain biodiversity.

Policy VI-1.4.2 Freshwater Habitat and Wildlife

The County shall seek and utilize management plans developed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Lake County Water Authority, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other relevant agencies in developing strategies for the protection and restoration of significant aquatic habitat and aquatic species, including but not limited to species listed as endangered, threatened, or species of special concern.

Policy VI-1.4.3 Identification and Protection of Wildlife and Habitat Corridors

Lake County shall cooperate with federal, state and local agencies and conservation organizations to identify wildlife and habitat corridors that serve as biological connections between natural areas, and shall implement programs that protect the viability of these corridors. These programs shall include focused land acquisition initiatives, conservation easements, and appropriate regulatory measures.

Policy VI-1.4.4 Identify and Protect Designated Species and Critical Habitat

The County shall cooperate with state and federal agencies to determine the presence and habitat distribution of designated species. The County shall cooperate with these agencies to prevent further reductions in designated species populations.

Policy VI-1.4.5 Predevelopment Survey for Designated Species and Protection from Development

Activities that require the alteration or clearing of habitat of designated species shall be surveyed for occurrences of designated species by a qualified biologist prior to the issuance of a development permit. Where viable habitat for designated species occurs on a site, and evidence of individuals are present, a management plan protecting these species shall be submitted by the applicant. The plan must be approved by the County in consultation with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission before development is authorized.

Policy VI-1.4.6 Designated Species Management Plans

The County shall adopt agreements with local governments and state and federal agencies as necessary, pertaining to the protection and enhancement of designated species. The County shall continue to coordinate with all public agencies listed in the [Conservation Element](#) as primary or secondary agencies, whether or not they have regulatory authority over the use of the land. Lake County shall cooperate with the appropriate agencies in identifying habitat ranges for designated species located within the County and shall assist in the preparation of management plans, including mitigation procedures, to ensure the survival of these species.

Policy VI-1.4.7 Explore a Land Banking Program for Habitat Mitigation

Lake County, in cooperation with the Lake County Water Authority, and other state and regional regulatory and land use management agencies, shall investigate the feasibility of establishing an off-site "land banking" or land trust program as an option for the mitigation of the unavoidable loss of protected rare or endangered lands, natural upland communities, and wetlands. The monies generated from this program shall be dedicated to the purchase of significant environmentally sensitive lands for preservation.

Policy VI-1.4.8 Inventory of Natural Upland Communities

The County shall cooperate with agencies and organizations, including but not limited to the Lake County Water Authority, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and Water Management Districts to map upland habitat. On-site studies and verification shall be used as the primary data in determining the location of upland habitat on individual sites.

Policy VI-1.4.9 Management of Conservation Lands

The County shall coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies regarding the management of public and private conservation land and shall consult with agencies regarding the potential impact of adjacent uses on the health and management of federal, state, and local conservation land and environmentally-sensitive lands.

Policy VI-1.4.10 Natural Area Networks

The County shall partner with federal, state and local agencies, and with private conservation entities as appropriate, to identify and protect environmentally-sensitive land, through acquisition or the purchase of conservation easements, in order to establish natural area networks or greenways. These networks or greenways are intended to link public and private conservation areas, preserve and restore habitat and wildlife corridors, maintain viable populations of listed species, maintain aquifer recharge capacity, protect air quality, and provide opportunities for passive recreation.

Policy VI-1.4.11 Special Protection Areas Programs

The County shall participate in programs at the local, regional, state, and federal levels to afford protection and management through acquisition and conservation easements within areas given special protection status. These land areas shall include but not be limited to the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern, the Lake Wales Ridge, the Emeralda Marsh, the Lake Apopka Restoration Area, the Wekiva-Ocala Greenway, the Wekiva River Protection Area and the Wekiva Study Area.

Policy VI-1.4.12 Joint Strategies for Land Acquisition

The County shall propose joint strategies to coordinate land acquisition efforts for protection of water resources, environmentally sensitive lands and open spaces.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.5 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR THE PROVISION OF HOUSING

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of local, regional, state and federal agencies in order to more effectively and efficiently provide housing appropriate for all its residents.

Policy VI-1.5.1 Coordination to Provide Affordable Housing

The County shall coordinate with the municipalities to provide affordable housing in urban areas and implement programs to promote quality affordable housing for existing and future residents and ensure the continued viability of affordable housing.

Policy VI-1.5.2 Master site file update

The County shall periodically update the County's portion of the Florida Master Site File by continuing to assist the Department of State Division of Historical Resources' efforts in this regard.

Policy VI-1.5.3 Promote the conservation of historically significant housing

The County shall assist property owners of historically significant housing by supporting applications seeking standing on the Florida Department of State Master Site File and the National Register of Historic Places. The County shall promote adaptive re-use and rehabilitation of historically significant structures through assistance with grant functions and coordination with state technical services available for such activities.

Policy VI-1.5.4 Housing Needs Assessment

The County shall take a leadership role in ensuring that all municipalities and the County perform housing needs assessments on a schedule that coordinates the timing of the assessments with the Evaluation and Appraisal Report required by Florida Statute 163.3191. The County shall utilize, and each municipal government shall be encouraged to utilize, the data and analysis from the needs assessment as one basis for the [housing element](#) of its local Comprehensive Plan.

Policy VI-1.5.5 Establishment of Workforce Housing Incentives

The County shall seek to partner with the municipalities, financial community, the development community, and not-for-profit housing providers in order to define incentives that will aid the construction of housing affordable to the workforce of Lake County.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.6 COORDINATION OF LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS AND PROVISION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The County shall maintain coordination efforts with responsible local, regional and state authorities, and private utility companies, as appropriate, to provide adequate public facilities and services and ensure consistency with adopted level of service standards.

Policy VI-1.6.1 Multiparty Development Agreements

The County shall seek multiparty agreements (e.g., Municipal/County/developer tri-party agreements) as a means to expedite facility improvements and reduce public costs.

Policy VI-1.6.2 Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements

The County shall adhere to this Comprehensive Plan, including but not limited to the Future Land Use Map, when negotiating Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements. The County shall evaluate the effectiveness of Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements and revise as necessary.

Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements that consider central water and sewer utilities shall include a Joint Planning Area wherein the County and municipality agree upon the future land use of the lands within the boundary.

Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements that allow a municipality to annex land in a pattern that waives the statutorily described requirements of compactness and contiguity or creates an enclave shall include:

- Future Land Use assignments mutually agreed upon by the County and municipality for all lands subject to such annexation or affected by the Interlocal Service Boundary Agreement; and

- Agreement by the County and municipality that subsequent changes in Future Land Use within the boundary shall not be approved unless agreed upon by all parties to the Interlocal Service Boundary Agreement.

Policy VI-1.6.3 Coordinated Concurrency Management Systems

The County shall coordinate with the municipalities when applicable in the implementation of their concurrency management system for compatible adopted levels of service.

Policy VI-1.6.4 Efficient Provision of Services

The County shall facilitate the most efficient provision of services for future development by establishing service areas for drainage, fire protection, and other public facilities.

Policy VI-1.6.5 Coordinate With Utility Providers

The County shall require applicants to submit site plans and plats to the electrical, potable water, sanitary sewer, reclaimed water, and all other public or private utilities to assist in the planning and programming of utility services.

Policy VI-1.6.6 Coordinate Levels of Service

The County shall, to the greatest extent feasible and when in the interest of the County, develop and provide levels of service for public and private facilities compatible with adopted Levels of Service of neighboring jurisdictions in and adjacent to Lake County, and appropriate state and regional authorities through active intergovernmental coordination.

Policy VI-1.6.7 Intergovernmental Assistance

The County shall use intergovernmental assistance to finance only those capital improvements that are consistent with the Capital Improvements Element and County priorities, and whose operating and maintenance costs have been included in operating budget forecasts.

Policy VI-1.6.8 Meet Non-Potable Water Use Demand

The County shall coordinate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies to implement programs and policies that require non-potable water use demands be met using water of the lowest quality supply, which is both available and acceptable for the intended application.

The County shall require new central wastewater facilities to provide treatment levels that enable water reuse or reclamation.

Policy VI-1.6.9 Coordination of Potable Water Services with the Utility Providers

Within 12 months of the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, Lake County shall pursue Interlocal Agreements with the municipalities that supply utilities within Lake County for establishing service areas so as not to duplicate services and to provide for conditions for the establishment of, and the operation within, the service area. Within 12 months of the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan, Lake County shall pursue written agreements defining the relationship with all privately-owned water suppliers who provide water to unincorporated Lake County.

Policy VI-1.6.10 Coordination with Other Agencies for Protecting Water Supplies

Lake County shall work closely with the federal, state, regional and local agencies to ensure all possible alternatives, acceptable to the County, are explored and implemented with respect to new development and water conservation. This may include:

- Define expansion areas in Lake County where central water service is anticipated;
- Require the use of reuse water for landscape irrigation wherever possible, unless other lower quality water sources are authorized by the St. Johns River Water Management District and/or Southwest Florida Water Management District pursuant to part II of Chapter 373, F.S.;
- Promote and facilitate Joint Planning Area agreements between municipalities, and between the County and municipalities;
- Consider exploring alternative water supply options;
- Look for opportunities to capitalize on economies of scale;
- Pursue or support grant matching funding, participation, subsidized loans, and low-cost loan programs for environmental, water resource, and public welfare projects in Lake County;
- Assist entities with “seed” money grants for beneficial projects or develop another cooperative approach;
- Facilitate regional programs for Lake County entities;
- Create Special Water Districts in cooperation with municipalities and regulatory agencies;
- Develop Water Resource Cooperation and Support Agreements through the JPA process;
- Participate in regional water supply planning with municipalities and regulatory agencies;
- Promote conservation through education, incentives, and regulation;
- Encourage phasing-out septic systems where appropriate;
- Develop incentives to connect to central water and wastewater systems; and
- Participate with the Water Management Districts in the development of District Water Management Plans, Water Supply Assessments, and District Water Supply Plans.

Policy VI-1.6.11 Coordination of Potable Water Facilities to Discourage Urban Sprawl

The County shall coordinate the extension of lines or increase of facility capacity with adjacent municipal and private facilities to discourage urban sprawl.

Policy VI-1.6.12 Notification of Central Sewer Availability

The County shall coordinate with publicly owned or investor owned central sewer providers regarding the process for notification of existing owners of the availability of central sewer facilities.

Policy VI-1.6.13 Coordination of Wastewater Services with the Utility Providers

Within 12 months of the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan, Lake County shall pursue Interlocal Agreements with municipalities providing wastewater utility services within unincorporated areas of Lake County. These Interlocal Agreements will establish service area boundaries so as to prevent or eliminate duplicative service areas and provide conditions for establishment and operation within the service areas. Within 12 months of the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan, Lake County shall pursue written agreements defining the relationship with all privately-owned water suppliers who provide water to unincorporated Lake County.

Policy VI-1.6.14 Coordination of Wastewater Facilities to Discourage Urban Sprawl

The County shall coordinate the extension of service or increase of facility capacity with adjacent municipal and private facilities to discourage urban sprawl.

Policy VI-1.6.15 Advanced and Enhanced Onsite Wastewater Treatment

The County will coordinate with federal and state agencies including the Department of Health to minimize the impact of onsite wastewater disposal systems within springsheds, areas of aquifer vulnerability and surface waters and wetlands. The County shall require new development outside of wastewater utility service areas, not on central sewer, to comply with onsite performance based treatment systems within environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to the Wekiva Study Area, consistent with the state requirements. The Florida Department of Health rule making will establish the treatment standards for onsite performance based treatment systems. The County will work with agencies to evaluate various onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems to maximize nutrient removal and provide appropriate, cost effective solutions for new and retrofitted onsite systems. As appropriate, the County shall adopt Land Development Regulations that require advanced or enhanced onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems within the WSA and other environmentally-sensitive areas to achieve discharge limits established by the Department of Health. The County shall consider incentives to encourage the use of more efficient nutrient-removing technologies for onsite systems as they become available.

Policy VI-1.6.16 Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems

The County shall coordinate with the County Health Department regarding the owners of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems that will be required to connect to central sewer facilities, and owners of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems that will remain, including those that require a Department of Health permit or permit modification because of failing systems or systems requiring major repairs.

Policy VI-1.6.17 Waterless Toilets and Grey Water Systems

In cooperation with the local Department of Health office, the County shall encourage the use of waterless toilets and the use of home-based grey water systems in accordance with state regulations.

Policy VI-1.6.18 Wastewater Treatment Systems within Environmentally Sensitive Areas

The County shall support and require compliance with all federal, state, regional and local agency regulations relating to the location and operation of central wastewater treatment facilities, including advanced standards for Advanced Wastewater Treatment facilities within springsheds and the Wekiva Study Area adopted pursuant to Florida Department of Environmental Protection rule. The County shall coordinate with the Florida Department of Health, and other regulatory agencies having jurisdiction, regarding the development and implementation of rules and regulations relating to septic systems and onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems that may be required within environmentally-sensitive areas, such as springsheds and the Wekiva Study Area. The County shall cooperate and work with the Department of Health toward the establishment of a mandatory pump-out program for septic systems within the Wekiva Study Area, similar to the five-year pump out program utilized within the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern.

Policy VI-1.6.19 Coordination of On-Site Sewer Services within the Wekiva Study Area

The County shall coordinate with the Department of Health regarding onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems located in the Wekiva Study Area to ensure a coordinated approach to the provision of wastewater treatment.

Policy VI-1.6.20 Coordination of Wastewater Treatment within the Wekiva Study Area to Reduce Nutrients

The County shall coordinate with agencies and providers of central sewer services and onsite wastewater treatment systems to jointly address ground and surface water nutrient loading from wastewater within the

Wekiva Study Area. Such efforts should aim to leverage limited resources and take advantage of economies of scale. The County shall cooperate with the Department of Health regarding compliance with rules requiring onsite performance based treatment systems to minimize ground and surface water contamination.

Policy VI-1.6.21 Septic Tank Provisions for the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern

At least once every five (5) years, except as otherwise provided herein, every lot owner with one or more septic tanks in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern shall have all septic tanks cleaned and inspected in accordance with the requirements of the Lake County Department of Health. Lake County shall coordinate with the Department of Health to require that the septic tank be cleaned, that the mound, drainfield and septic tank system be in good working order and in compliance with the standards of Chapter 64, F.A.C., and the standards described herein. As necessary, a fee to be paid by lot owners shall be assessed to cover the costs of administering this program. The lot owner shall make all repairs that are necessary to bring the septic tank system in compliance with all the requirements hereof.

Policy VI-1.6.22 Coordination with Adjacent Jurisdictions for Stormwater Management

Lake County shall coordinate and consult with the municipalities, adjoining counties, and appropriate state and federal agencies in the implementation of a Stormwater Management Plan. The coordination and consultation shall specifically include issues regarding Total Maximum Daily Loads and any adopted TMDL legislation, guidelines, implementation, and potential joint projects.

Policy VI-1.6.23 Master Stormwater Management Plan for the Wekiva Study Area

Lake County shall cooperate and consult with the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and adjoining local governments and municipalities in the implementation of the Wekiva Study Area regional master stormwater management plan. The County will incorporate findings, methods and recommendations of the WSA Master Stormwater Management Plan into the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations as appropriate. Utilizing the WSA Master Stormwater Management Plan as a guide, the County will revise project priorities within its 5-year Stormwater Improvement Plan and the [Capital Improvement Element](#) of the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy VI-1.6.24 Intergovernmental Coordination for Solid Waste

The County shall support an intergovernmental approach to the problems and opportunities of waste management, both within and outside the County, through the establishment of interlocal agreements and coordination meetings.

Policy VI-1.6.25 Environmental Monitoring of Private Solid Waste Management Facilities

Lake County shall, when appropriate, assist the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in its efforts to monitor privately owned and operated solid waste management facilities including landfills, resource recovery facilities, and solid waste processing facilities.

Policy VI-1.6.26 Safe Operation of Privately-Owned Solid Waste Management Facilities

Upon adoption of its Comprehensive Plan, the County shall cooperate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in their regulation of privately-owned, as well as publicly-owned, solid waste management facilities to assure they are operated in a manner that will protect the public health, welfare, and safety.

Policy VI-1.6.27 Monitoring Impacts from Privately-Owned Solid Waste Management Facilities

The County shall cooperate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in their efforts to monitor the impacts to air, land, ground and surface water, and wildlife habitat from privately operated solid waste management facilities.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.7 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of the LSMPO and other local, regional, state, and federal agencies in order to ensure consistency with adopted level of service standards and more effectively and efficiently provide transportation facilities and services.

Policy VI-1.7.1 Coordination with Transportation Agencies' Improvements Programs

Lake County shall directly coordinate with Florida Department of Transportation, LSMPO, and other transportation agencies, as appropriate, to identify needed transportation improvement projects.

Policy VI-1.7.2 Coordination and Consistency with Other Transportation Agencies

Lake County shall coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation, LSMPO and other transportation agencies as appropriate to ensure the transportation system is coordinated and consistent with current and future agency plans of Lake and Sumter counties, its communities, and neighbors.

Policy VI-1.7.3 Collaborative Transportation Planning

Lake County shall support collaborative land use and transportation planning efforts among local governments that will ensure that communities can develop in an efficient and sustainable way. This shall be achieved through intergovernmental coordination and joint planning.

Policy VI-1.7.4 Consistent Transportation Plans

Lake County shall seek to ensure consistency between the LSMPO Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy VI-1.7.5 Funding for Transportation Improvements

Lake County will strongly lobby for the inclusion of appropriate projects on the Metropolitan Planning Organization Road Improvements List and the Florida Department of Transportation Work Program to ensure that the appropriate and equitable amount of money is expended on State road projects within the County. The County also shall pursue additional funding sources for transportation improvements consistent with the Capital Improvements and Transportation Elements

Policy VI-1.7.6 Use of Level of Service Maximum Volumes

Lake County, in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the LSMPO, shall use generalized peak hour level of service maximum volume tables, appropriate LOS software and/or direct field measurements in order to assess the most accurate level of service and available capacity for SIS/FIHS, arterial, collector and local roadways.

Policy VI-1.7.7 Arterial Functional Classification System

Lake County, in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation, the LSMPO, and Federal Highway Administration (FHA), shall determine functionally classified arterial roadways.

Policy VI-1.7.8 Collector and Local Functional Classification System

Lake County, in coordination with municipalities, the Florida Department of Transportation and the LSMPO, shall maintain a functional classification system for collector and local roadways under its jurisdiction that is sensitive to the local dynamics of the County. The County shall update or request updates for Federal Functional Classifications for local roadways as area characteristics and facilities change over time.

Policy VI-1.7.9 Transportation Concurrency Exception Areas and Management Areas

The County shall, in coordination with LSMPO and the municipalities, examine the utility of transportation concurrency exception areas and management areas as tools to promote compact growth and development patterns that establish a clear delineation between urban and rural land uses and promote economic development.

Policy VI-1.7.10 Motorized and Non-Motorized Design Standards for State Roads

To minimize conflicts between motorized and non-motorized transportation traffic, Lake County shall coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation to ensure that, at a minimum, paved shoulders are added to all State roads within the jurisdictional limits of the County at the time that reconstruction or additional capacity improvements occur, in conformance with the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual, January 1, 2009, or its successor documents, as well as the Lake County Trails Master Plan, September 2008, or its successors.

Policy VI-1.7.11 Bicycle and Recreational Trail Planning and Coordination

Lake County shall coordinate with government agencies and private organizations involved in the acquisition and development of a trail system utilizing abandoned railroad right-of-way where feasible. Such coordination shall ensure, to the extent possible, that new trails are consistent with the design standards and network adopted in the Lake County Trails Master Plan, September 2008, or its successor documents. The County shall incorporate new rail trails into the Plan in future updates, as appropriate. Lake County has a goal of providing a County-wide network of pedestrian, bicycle, recreational and equestrian trails. The County will coordinate with the LSMPO, Florida Department of Transportation, municipalities and other appropriate agencies to study and implement options for coordinated provision of a bike trail network consistent with the Lake County Trails Master Plan, September 2008, or its successor documents. The County will request federal, state and other local funding sources to implement this goal.

Policy VI-1.7.12 Airports

Lake County shall coordinate with the LSMPO, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Military, Florida Department of Transportation Five Year Work Program, Continuing Florida Aviation System Planning Process, and the various airports to ensure that the expansion of existing general aviation airports and surface transportation access roads are consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Lake County Comprehensive Plan, and applicable Federal and State regulations; and ensure access to airports and related facilities are properly integrated with other modes of surface transportation.

Policy VI-1.7.13 Rail Expansion

All rail expansion shall be coordinated with the Future Land Use and [Conservation Elements](#) of the Lake County Comprehensive Plan. In addition, all facility expansions shall be coordinated with the provision of public improvements. Lake County shall also encourage coordination of rail facilities among municipalities, private owners, state and federal agencies, the LSMPO, and users of the rail lines.

Policy VI-1.7.14 Establish Public Transit Zones and Fixed Route Public Transit

Lake County in coordination with the LSMPO and the municipalities shall identify, analyze and help create Transit Supportive Areas to implement the Lake County Transit Development Plan (Wilbur Smith Associates,

2008) and its successor documents. Lake County shall promote fixed route service along routes established as priorities in the Lake County Transit Development Plan (Wilbur Smith Associates, 2008) and its successor documents, or as determined by the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) and the LSMPO, and shall seek to coordinate that service with other providers in the region.

Policy VI-1.7.15 Promote Coordination and Public Participation for Transportation Planning

The County shall promote coordination among government agencies, LSMPO, and public and private entities in order to encourage regional system-wide transportation solutions. The County shall ensure that the Comprehensive Plan supports community social values through developing transportation systems that are user friendly, accessible, interconnected and aesthetically appropriate.

The County shall also actively solicit public input from appropriate sources, including but not limited to, community groups, businesses, underserved populations, and the Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan supports community social values through developing transportation systems that are user friendly, accessible, interconnected and aesthetically appropriate.

Policy VI-1.7.16 Wekiva Parkway Planning and Design

Lake County shall coordinate with the various regional transportation entities during the planning, design, and construction of the Wekiva Parkway and related transportation facilities, and shall ensure compliance with provisions of the Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act.

Policy VI-1.7.17 Transportation Network in the Mount Plymouth-Sorrento Community

In order to protect the long-term integrity of the Mount Plymouth-Sorrento Community, it shall be the expressed intent of the County to maintain State Road 46 within the Mount Plymouth-Sorrento Main Street Future Land Use Category as a two-lane facility, herein referred to as “Main Street”, and to coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation to achieve this purpose.

Policy VI-1.7.18 Coordination During Major Regional Transportation Construction Projects

The County will coordinate with the LSMPO, Florida Department of Transportation, and other jurisdictions and agencies to prepare in advance for the maintenance of traffic during construction of major regional transportation projects.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.8 COORDINATION OF THE LAKE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WITH THE LAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Lake County shall coordinate its programs and Comprehensive Plan with the programs and plans of the Lake County School Board.

Policy VI-1.8.1 Coordinate with the Lake County School Board

Public schools are community facilities which are necessary to serve residents in Lake County. Lake County shall participate in the coordination of planning for school facilities with the Lake County School Board, municipalities and the State of Florida. The provision of schools shall be consistent with the First Amended Interlocal Agreement between Lake County and the Lake County School Board and municipalities for School Facilities Planning and Siting.

Policy VI-1.8.2 Coordinate the Development Review Process with the Lake County School Board

Lake County, through its development review process, shall consider the comments received by the School Board regarding the school enrollment impacts anticipated to result from any proposed land use application or development proposal and whether sufficient capacity exists or is planned.

Policy VI-1.8.3 Use of School Data for Planning County Infrastructure

The County shall continue to include school enrollment data in transportation planning and capital programs. The County shall exchange data with the School Board for use in the respective capital planning programs.

Policy VI-1.8.4 Coordinate School Plans

The County shall coordinate with the Lake County School Board to discuss development plans for expansion of existing or new education facilities within the unincorporated County to ensure such activities are consistent with growth management and development plans established within the Lake County Comprehensive Plan and the procedures established in the "First Amended Interlocal Agreement Between Lake County and Lake County School Board and municipalities for School Facilities Planning and Siting" or its successors. Also, the County shall coordinate and address any issues concerning impacts of educational facilities on adopted levels of service established for roads, water, drainage, recreation, and solid waste services.

Policy VI-1.8.5 Avoid Duplication of Services

The County shall coordinate with the Lake County School Board and the municipalities to integrate recreation facilities on school property into the recreation system for Lake County to avoid duplication of services. In addition, school facilities shall continue to be available for public meetings and other public uses when demand warrants the use.

Policy VI-1.8.6 School Board Representation on Various County Boards

The County shall continue providing a position for a School Board representative at its Development Review Staff meetings, Zoning Board, and on the Local Planning Agency.

Policy VI-1.8.7 Policy Coordination Between School and County Boards

The County shall ensure effective coordination of the policies and programs of the School Board and Board of County Commissioners.

Policy VI-1.8.8 Collaborative Planning

Lake County, the School Board, and Lake County's municipalities will, through the procedures established in the "First Amended Interlocal Agreement Between Lake County and Lake County School Board and municipalities for School Facilities Planning and Siting" or its successors, maintain a collaborative effort in the joint planning process to effectively implement school concurrency using accurate and agreed upon supporting data and analysis.

Policy VI-1.8.9 Implementation of the Interlocal Agreement

Lake County shall adhere to the "First Amended Interlocal Agreement Between Lake County and Lake County School Board and municipalities for School Facilities Planning and Siting," or its successors, as required by Section 1013.33, Florida Statutes, which establishes procedures for, among other things, coordination and sharing of information; planning processes; school siting procedures; site design and development plan review; and school concurrency implementation.

Policy VI-1.8.10 Joint Meetings

The Lake County Educational Concurrency Review Committee shall be established by the County, School Board and municipalities. The committee shall be comprised of one representative from the School Board and County Commission, and one representative from each municipality. Members may be elected officials or citizens and shall be appointed by each appointing body. The Committee shall meet at least annually but more often if needed, and will hear reports and discuss issues concerning school concurrency.

Policy VI-1.8.11 Joint Staff Meetings

The Joint Staff School Concurrency Review Group, comprised of Staff of the County, municipalities, and School Board, shall meet regularly to discuss issues concerning school concurrency. These issues shall include but not be limited to land use, school facilities planning (including such issues as population and student projections), level of service, capacity, development trends, school needs, co-location and joint use opportunities, and ancillary infrastructure improvements needed to support schools and ensure safe student access.

Policy VI-1.8.12 Coordination of Land Use Planning and School Facilities Planning

Lake County, through the execution of its adopted Comprehensive Plan and a collaborative planning effort with the School Board, shall notify the School Board of land use applications and development proposals that may affect student enrollment, enrollment projections, or school facilities.

Policy VI-1.8.13 School Siting

Lake County will work with, and support, the School District staff in the planning and selection of school sites to be brought before the School Board for consideration. Staff shall share and coordinate information related to existing and planned school facilities; proposals for development, redevelopment, or additional development; and infrastructure required to support the school facilities concurrent with proposed development.

Policy VI-1.8.14 Population Projections and Methodology

The County will establish a collaborative effort between the County, municipalities, and School District in the dissemination of data and decision making on population projections. Lake County shall provide population projections to the School District and municipalities. County Staff will also continue to work with the School District and the municipalities to improve the population projection methodology and enhance coordination among the plans of the School District and municipalities.

Policy VI-1.8.15 Population Projections and Development Trends

The County shall provide the School District with its Comprehensive Plan, and provide updated development data and population projections on an ongoing basis to facilitate development of school enrollment projections. The County shall coordinate its Comprehensive Plan and the Future Land Use Map Series with the School District's long range facilities maps to ensure consistency and compatibility with the provisions of the Future Land Use Element, and ensure that the development of school facilities are concurrent with residential development.

Policy VI-1.8.16 Capacity Determination Standards

The County shall cooperate with the School District in the implementation of capacity determination standards.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.9 COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Lake County shall coordinate with the plans and programs of local, regional, state, and federal agencies in order to ensure consistency with adopted level of service standards and more effectively and efficiently provide recreation facilities and services.

Policy VI-1.9.1 Partnerships for Recreation Facilities

Lake County shall develop and maintain partnerships with the municipalities, the Lake County School Board and the Lake County Water Authority as well as not-for-profit organizations and the private sector.

Policy VI-1.9.2 Coordination and Facilitation of Recreation Facilities

Lake County shall coordinate the development of recreational facilities and work with federal, state, regional, and local agencies to facilitate recreation programs.

Policy VI-1.9.3 Co-location of Recreation Facilities

Lake County and the School Board should further work to co-locate sites for new and existing schools and recreation facilities where feasible. Lake County should work with the School Board to identify possible joint opportunities to provide athletic and recreation opportunities for students and residents. A school/park design model should be developed to be used for planning such joint facilities. Lake County and the School Board should also work to identify existing school sites for possible improvements to better accommodate public recreation usage.

Policy VI-1.9.4 Mutual Use Agreement for Recreation Facilities

Lake County should work with the School Board to develop a model 'Mutual Use Agreement' for the use of school and recreation facilities for public use.

Policy VI-1.9.5 Interlocal Agreements for Recreation Facilities

Lake County shall coordinate with the County's municipalities and adjacent counties for the provision of public parks and recreational programming through the use of interlocal agreements.

Policy VI-1.9.6 Non-Profit Recreation Providers

Lake County shall develop agreements with non-profit recreation providers such as the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club to provide recreational programming and facilities.

Policy VI-1.9.7 Joint Agency Funding of Recreation Facilities

Lake County shall pursue joint agency funding for the purchase, development, and management of public parks, environmental lands, and trails.

Policy VI-1.9.8 Trails Program

Lake County shall continue working towards expanding and improving its trails program by coordinating with federal, state, regional, and local public agencies and private organizations to implement the Lake County Trails Master Plan, September 2008, or its successor document.

OBJECTIVE VI-1.10 EXCHANGE OF SUPPORT AND DATA

The County shall increase the effectiveness and efficiency of public programs and minimize costs by providing, seeking and sharing information.

Policy VI-1.10.1 Internet Services

Lake County will continue to provide information on its Internet webpage. This information includes the agendas and minutes of the meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and many of its supporting citizen and staff committees, information on the County Departments, important county documents and progress statements on major work efforts, such as road construction projects.

Policy VI-1.10.2 Sharing of Geographical Information Systems Data

The County will continue to provide access to its GIS data via the internet webpage and an FTP site. Maps produced using GIS databases maintained by the County, shall use the most complete and current data available on the date of production.

Policy VI-1.10.3 Review of County Plans

The County shall coordinate the transmission of copies of the County's proposed Comprehensive Plan updates, Land Development Regulations, other design standards and Capital Improvements Programs for Municipal, School Board and adjacent county review and comment prior to Board action.

Policy VI-1.10.4 Sharing of Resources

The County will continue to provide land use data and socio-economic data to the municipalities, the School Board, the LSMPO and other units of government and agencies.